

(3) in the fourth sentence, by inserting "small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, by" after "including participation by".

#### **TITLE VI—REPORTS AND DATA COLLECTION**

##### **SEC. 601. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) **REPORTS TO SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.**—Section 15(h)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(h)(1)) is amended by inserting "small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans (including service-disabled veterans)," after "small business concerns," the first place it appears.

(b) **REPORTS TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS.**—Section 15(h)(2) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(h)(2)) is amended—

(1) by inserting "and the Congress" before the period at the end of first sentence; and

(2) in each of subparagraphs (A), (D), and (E), by inserting "small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans," after "small business concerns," the first place it appears.

##### **SEC. 602. REPORT ON SMALL BUSINESS AND COMPETITION.**

Section 303(e) of the Small Business Economic Policy Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 631b(e)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, as defined in section 3(q) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(q)), and small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, as defined in such section 3(q)."

##### **SEC. 603. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.**

The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall transmit annually to the Committees on Small Business and Veterans Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the needs of small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans, which shall include information on—

(1) the availability of Small Business Administration programs for such small business concerns and the degree of utilization of such programs by such small business concerns during the preceding 12-month period, including statistical information on such utilization as compared to the small business community as a whole;

(2) the percentage and dollar value of Federal contracts awarded to such small business concerns during the preceding 12-month period, based on the data collected pursuant to section 604(d); and

(3) proposals to improve the access of such small business concerns to the assistance made available by the United States.

##### **SEC. 604. DATA AND INFORMATION COLLECTION.**

(a) **INFORMATION ON FEDERAL PROCUREMENT PRACTICES.**—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall, for each fiscal year—

(1) collect information concerning the procurement practices and procedures of each department and agency of the United States having procurement authority;

(2) publish and disseminate such information to procurement officers in all Federal agencies; and

(3) make such information available to any small business concern requesting such information.

(b) **IDENTIFICATION OF SMALL BUSINESS CONCERNS OWNED BY ELIGIBLE VETERANS.**—Each

fiscal year, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, identify small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans in the United States. The Secretary shall inform each small business concern identified under this paragraph that information on Federal procurement is available from the Administrator.

(c) **SELF-EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**—The Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall enter into a memorandum of understanding to provide for coordination of vocational rehabilitation services, technical and managerial assistance, and financial assistance to veterans, including service-disabled veterans, seeking to employ themselves by forming or expanding small business concerns. The memorandum of understanding shall include recommendations for expanding existing programs or establishing new programs to provide such services or assistance to such veterans.

(d) **DATA COLLECTION REQUIRED.**—The Federal Procurement Data System described in section 6(d)(4)(A) of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 405(d)(4)(A)) shall be modified to collect data regarding the percentage and dollar value of prime contracts and subcontracts awarded to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.

#### **TITLE VII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

##### **SEC. 701. ADMINISTRATOR'S ORDER.**

The Administrator of the Small Business Administration shall strengthen and reissue the Administrator's order regarding the third sentence of section 4(b)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 633(b)(1)), relating to nondiscrimination and special considerations for veterans, and take all necessary steps to ensure that its provisions are fully and vigorously implemented.

##### **SEC. 702. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF ADVOCACY.**

Section 202 of Public Law 94-305 (15 U.S.C. 634b) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (10), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (11), by striking the period at the end and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(12) evaluate the efforts of each department and agency of the United States, and of private industry, to assist small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, as defined in section 3(q) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(q)), and small business concerns owned and controlled by serviced-disabled veterans, as defined in such section 3(q), and to provide statistical information on the utilization of such programs by such small business concerns, and to make appropriate recommendations to the Administrator of the Small Business Administration and to the Congress in order to promote the establishment and growth of those small business concerns."

##### **SEC. 703. STUDY OF FIXED-ASSET SMALL BUSINESS LOANS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Comptroller General shall conduct a study on whether there would exist any additional risk or cost to the United States if—

(1) up to 10 percent of the loans guaranteed under chapter 37 of title 38, United States Code, were made for the acquisition or construction of fixed assets used in a trade or business rather than for the construction or purchase of residential buildings; and

(2) such loans for acquisition or construction of fixed assets were for a term of not more than 10 years and the terms regarding eligibility, loan

limits, interest, fees, and down payment were the same as for other loans guaranteed under such chapter.

(b) **REPORT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall transmit the report described in subsection (a) to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs and the Committees on Small Business of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(2) **CONTENTS OF REPORT.**—The report required by paragraph (1) shall specifically address the following:

(A) With respect to the change in the veterans' housing loan program contemplated under subsection (a):

(i) The increase or decrease in administrative costs to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(ii) The increase or decrease in the degree of exposure of the United States as the guarantor of the loans.

(iii) The increase or decrease in the Federal subsidy rate that would be possible.

(iv) Any increase in the interest rate or fees charged to the borrower or lender that would be required to maintain present program costs.

(B) Information regarding the delinquency rates, default rates, length of time required for recovery after default, for fixed-asset business loans, of a size and duration comparable to those contemplated under subsection (a), made available in the private market or under section 503 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958.

Mr. TALENT (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, but I will not object, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1658, the Veterans' Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999.

This Nation will provide opportunity for our Nation's veterans by providing them with the resources and assistance that are necessary for establishing their own businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the initial request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### **GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 1568.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.